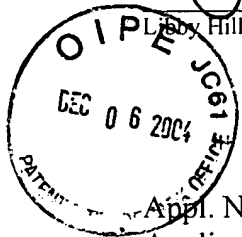


**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

Ref. no. 12439-0075

1FW/3729

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail on December 2, 2004 in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

App. No. : 09/753,310 Confirmation No. 8359  
Applicant : Eldridge et al.  
Filed : December 29, 2000  
TC/A.U. : 3729  
Examiner : Carl J. Arbes  
  
Docket No. : P34D1-US

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of June 2, 2004, the period for response to which has been extended to December 2, 2004 by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time, please consider the following remarks:

The **Claims** as pending are reflected in the list of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper. (No amendments are made to the claims.)

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.